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Macomb County  
Office of Public Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Feb. 17, 2006

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### **News Nuggets – Macomb County news highlights**

#### **Board accepts Kolakowski resignation, Crouchman new Budget chair**

Commissioner William Crouchman was appointed Budget Committee chair by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, Feb. 16.

Crouchman (D-St. Clair Shores) takes over as Budget chair from Diana Kolakowski, who resigned as commissioner for District 8 to become Warren's new economic development director. The County Board accepted her resignation immediately before Crouchman was appointed.

Kolakowski received a resolution from the board in tribute to her 23 years of service as a commissioner and her deep commitment to community causes. First elected to the board in 1982, Kolakowski served as chair in late 1995 and all of 1996.

#### **Board implements 2006 budget cuts**

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, Feb. 16, approved 3 percent budget reductions recommended by department heads, saving more than \$2.1 million without the need for employee layoffs.

The plans include reductions in spending, elimination of vacant staff positions and increases in certain fees. Aerial photographs from the Planning & Economic Development Department rise \$2 to \$12; soil erosion control permits rise from \$189 to \$225; room and board charges at the Juvenile Justice Center rise from \$155 to \$170 per day, and fees for senior citizen Adult Day Services rise from \$20 to \$22 for half days and \$30 to \$35 for full days.

The board also eliminated the 2006 Summer Youth Employment Program.

**Roseville property added to county brownfield redevelopment plan**

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, Feb. 16 added a 5.3-acre site in Roseville to the Macomb County Brownfield Plan. The site currently is used for crushing concrete.

The property at 28279-28285 Groesbeck Highway will be cleaned up by Groesbeck Martin LLC and several commercial facilities will be constructed there. The property is south of 12 Mile Road and north of Martin Road.

**County approves lease of bank building**

Downtown Mount Clemens is slated to get a new restaurant and club this fall after the Macomb County Board of Commissioners voted on Thursday, Feb. 16, to approve a 10-year lease agreement for the former bank building at 77 S. Main St.

The county acquired the building as part of a three-parcel purchase in late 2004. It will be leased to A&R Macomb LLC for \$60,000 per year the first five years and \$66,000 per year for the second five years. Lessee Ron Masters, who has a financial interest in three other downtown Mount Clemens establishments, is planning to renovate the building and open an upscale restaurant-bar that may be called "Studio 77."

Macomb County supplied \$300,000 in restoration assistance as part of the lease deal for the 4,000-square-foot building. The building, which originally opened in 1961, is the site of the former Mount Clemens Federal Savings and Loan.

**Macomb County employees support "WalkAmerica 2006"**

Macomb County employees again will actively participate in the March of Dimes WalkAmerica program, which raises money for research, community services, education and advocacy efforts aimed at preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality.

The local WalkAmerica 2006 will be held Sunday, April 30, at Metropolitan Beach. In 2005, county employees raised more than \$8,600 for the campaign.

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